

MIAMI RACES FOR THE CURE

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, last Saturday, members of the South Florida community came together in an effort to eradicate breast cancer. Nearly 5,000 people participated in the Komen Miami/Ft. Lauderdale Race for the Cure.

Before the race, Nancy Brinker, founder of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, delighted the crowd with her compassionate words and Soraya, the well-known Latin American singer, who underwent a mastectomy several weeks ago, translated Nancy's message of hope and inspiration into Spanish before walking the course. This year's race was dedicated to Patti Walsh, a Race for the Cure volunteer who lost her battle with breast cancer in August. Today I salute the family and friends who supported her. Twenty-five percent of the dollars raised at last Saturday's event will benefit the National Grants Program for breast cancer research. And, 70% will be used to award grants within the South Florida community by promoting breast cancer research, education, screening and treatment.

I would especially like to congratulate Helen Duncan, my congressional constituent, and Race for the Cure volunteer who organized this magnificent South Florida event.

I commend Jane Torres, President of the Breast Cancer Coalition and a yearly participant in this event who devotes herself daily to eradicating breast cancer.

And I thank the hundreds of South Florida families whose lives may have been touched by breast cancer, and who helped make this event possible.

IN HONOR OF TIM GAUNA

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, I rise in sadness today to honor the memory of Information Systems Technician Seaman Timothy Gauna, a constituent of mine from Rice, Texas, who is among the missing sailors from the attack on the U.S.S. *Cole*.

Tim Gauna was 21 years old and a 1997 graduate of Ennis High School. He was one of five children in a close family. Teachers said he was a quiet student who excelled in baseball and art. He joined the Navy 18 months ago with a dream shared by many recruits, to earn financial assistance to attend college. He wanted to learn about computers, then use the knowledge while attending the University of Texas at Austin. He would have been the first in his family to go to college.

Before sailing into harm's way, Tim let his mom know that he was headed into dangerous waters, but that he would be okay. Like all the sailors aboard the U.S.S. *Cole*, Tim Gauna was serving his country bravely and honorably when this vicious attack took place. I join the Gauna family, and all the families of the missing sailors, in hoping that they will soon be accounted for.

After the attack, I flew down to North Texas to visit Seaman Gauna's family. There, I spoke with a mother who is proud of her son's courage and patriotism. She described her son as having an open and friendly nature, and sharing the family's strong belief in their faith. And I talked to various family members who admire Tim's dedication to America.

I do not know all the sailors on the U.S.S. *Cole*, Mr. Speaker, but I know the family of Seaman Gauna. They—like all of the U.S.S. *Cole*'s sailors and their families—have America's gratitude, and our prayers.

IN TRIBUTE TO ELIE DULAY

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Elie Dulay, who will retire next week after 28 years of service to the City of Simi Valley, California, my hometown.

Elie was a clerk with the city when I was elected to the City Council. I can think of few people who were more helpful, energetic or pleasurable to work with than Elie during my entire tenure as a Councilman and Mayor.

It is of no surprise to me that Elie rose through ranks and will retire as an administrative secretary. Aside from being an exceptionally competent employee, she is the personification of a people person. Elie approaches life and her work with a smile. Problems disappear in her capable hands, and her positive attitude is contagious among her coworkers.

Elie's husband, Art, is also retiring, but they will remain busy. The two are accomplished dancers. Elie is also a wonderful cook, with a specialty in Asian food. They have three grown children, two of which work for the Simi Valley Police Department—one as an officer and one as a records technician. Elie and Art also have six grandchildren, ranging in age from 1 year to 16 years old, and look forward to spending even more time as doting grandparents.

Mr. Speaker, if there is an ideal government employee, Elie is it. I know my colleagues will join me in thanking her for her years of service and wish her all the best in her retirement.

WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTIONS

HON. CONSTANCE A. MORELLA

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mrs. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduced legislation in Congress amending the Whistleblower Protection Act (WPA) to restore protections for federal employees who risk their jobs by disclosing waste, fraud, abuse or violations of law they witness on the job. This legislation is critical to restore the flow of information to Congress and the public about wrongdoing within the government. It is necessary because the original congressional intent has been partially nullified by certain judicial decisions.

In 1989, Congress unanimously passed the Whistleblower Protection Act (WPA) and strengthened it in 1994. The new bill closes ju-

dicially created loopholes that have made the law useless in most circumstances. Recent decisions by the Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit have denied protection for disclosures made as part of an employee's job duties or within the chain of command. The bill restores coverage in over 90 percent of the situations where it counts most for federal workers to have free speech rights—when they defend the public on the job.

The bill also makes permanent a free speech shield known as the "anti-gag statute" that Congress has passed annually for the last 13 years. It outlaws nondisclosure rules, agreements and other forms of gag orders that would cancel rights in the Whistleblower Protection Act and other good government statutes. In particular, it upholds the supremacy of a long-established law that workers have a right to notice that information is classified as secret for national security interests, before they can be held liable for releasing it. The necessity for the bill was increased last week by passage of a little noticed provision in the Intelligence Authorization Act for 2001. That provision functionally could make whistleblowers liable for criminal prosecution, based on speculation that unmarked information were classified.

We must reaffirm our support for whistleblowers. We made a serious commitment to federal workers in 1989 and Congress must ensure those protections stay in place. Congress must demonstrate once again its support for federal workers who risk everything to defend the public against fraud, waste, and abuse.

TRIBUTE TO STEPHEN E. PETERSEN

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 19, 2000

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Stephen E. Petersen, founder of the Annual Petersen Invitational Golf Tournament. The tournaments have been held on some of the finest and challenging golf courses along the Atlantic Coast from Myrtle Beach to Charleston, South Carolina.

The purpose of the tournaments are to promote comradery, good food, fellowship, and hospitality among friends. The tournaments also provide an opportunity for participants to engage in the finer points of competitive golf. Throughout the years, more than six hundred friends and colleagues have participated in this event.

Stephen has unselfishly invested his inspiration, time, sweat, and funds in order to make these events successful. His love for people and passion for the game of golf together, distinguish him. They explain his sense of kinship with all those who know him. Stephen's efforts have been highly successful in enriching lives and providing enjoyment to all who have participated in his tournaments.

Many have fond memories which will remain with them for the rest of their lives. Many more gained insight and appreciation for what great golf tournaments are really all about.

I, and the many friends, colleagues, and participants of these golfing events wish to extend our sincere appreciation, admiration, and